

**General Assembly**

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Agenda item 123

**Programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005****Report of the Fifth Committee**

*Rapporteur:* Ms. Katja Pehrman (Finland)

**I. Introduction**

1. The previous recommendations made by the Fifth Committee to the General Assembly under agenda item 123 appear in the report of the Committee contained in document A/60/593.
2. The Fifth Committee resumed its consideration of the item and in particular the question of the provision of conference services at its 31st and 32nd meetings, on 16 December 2005. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the question are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/60/SR.31 and 32).

**II. Consideration of draft decision A/C.5/60/L.10**

3. At the 32nd meeting, on 16 December, the representative of Jamaica (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), introduced a draft decision entitled "Provision of conference services" (A/C.5/60/L.10) and orally revised it by inserting the words "the informal consultations of" before the words "the Fifth Committee".
4. At the same meeting, the Chairman of the Committee drew the attention of the Committee to rule 120 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly. The Chief of the Common Services Unit, Office of Programme Planning, Budget and Accounts, read out a statement of the programme budget implications of the revised draft decision. The Acting Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions orally introduced the related report of that Committee (see A/C.5/60/SR.32).
5. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Jamaica (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and



China) requested a waiver of rule 120 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly.

6. At the 32nd meeting, the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union), objected to the request for a waiver of rule 120 of the rules of procedure.

7. At the same meeting, the Committee voted to waive rule 120 of the rules of procedure by a recorded vote of 80 to 34, with 4 abstentions. The voting was as follows:<sup>1</sup>

*In favour:*

Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Gabon, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Morocco, Namibia, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

*Against:*

Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

*Abstaining:*

Bosnia and Herzegovina, France, Monaco, Russian Federation.

8. Also at the 32nd meeting, the Committee adopted draft decision A/C.5.60/L.10, as orally revised, by a recorded vote of 81 to 34 (see para. 10). The voting was as follows:<sup>2</sup>

*In favour:*

Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, France, Gabon, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of),

<sup>1</sup> The delegation of Botswana subsequently indicated that his delegation had inadvertently pushed the voting button of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

<sup>2</sup> The delegations of Indonesia and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela subsequently indicated that they had intended to vote in favour.

Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Morocco, Namibia, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, Uruguay, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

*Against:*

Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

*Abstaining:*

None.

9. At the same meeting, after the adoption of the draft decision, statements were made by the representatives of the United States of America, the Republic of Korea, the United Kingdom (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union), the Russian Federation, Jamaica (on behalf of the States Members that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Australia, Japan, South Africa, Cuba and Egypt (see A/C.5/60/SR.32).

### **III. Recommendations of the Fifth Committee**

10. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

#### **Provision of conference services**

The General Assembly decides to provide full conference services to the informal consultations of the Fifth Committee beyond 6 p.m. and on weekends until the end of the main part of its sixtieth session and to report on any expenditure in the context of the second performance report on the programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005.

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